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vol. III, no. 2

december 1995

Surf Pines Association Newsletter
for all members



# What's the Board Been Doing?

### **Board Change**

7 o our great regret, Linda Thompson resigned from the board at the October meeting. She found it impossible to meet her professional deadlines and still attend to all her volunteer activities. The board reluctantly accepted Linda's resignation and appointed Chuck Johnson to fill her term, of which about one and a half years remain.

### Other Agenda Topics

- The deed exchange between the Surf Pines Association and the Water Association is complete and quitclaim deeds have been recorded.
- Word reached us that the boundaries of Fort Clatsop National Memorial are to be extended and a trail from the fort to the ocean, ending at Sunset Beach, is to be created. The Association has received the full report on the plans from the park service and we will be kept informed as work proceeds. At present we anticipate that any impact on Surf Pines will be positive, since there

- will be more active surveillance of dune and beach use. The Fort Clatsop administration welcomes Surf Pines' interest and cooperation.
- For the many residents who have expressed concern about the height of the house at 63 Surf Pines Landing Drive, our complaint is still before the county planning authorities and the question should be considered early in the new year.
- Other matters are reported in substantive articles that follow.

### January Board Meeting

Next regular meeting of the Surf Pines Association Board is Thursday, January 18, 1996, 4:00 pm, at Bloomfields', 2364 Manion Drive.

Members are always welcome. Just in case there's been a change, call a board member if you plan to attend.

### **Financial Review**

The review of our financial reporting that we undertook after the annual meeting (see September Breeze) has been completed and CPA Greg McLeod's report indicated no major problems. When the two associations' accounts were separated, some money belonging to the Water Association was retained in our account and later transferred. There was a minor discrepancy in our cash position at the end of the 1994-5 fiscal year of about \$50, which has been reconciled. We believe that the accounts are now accurately and adequately reported.

Early in January members will be billed for this current quarter just ending. Most property owners pay their dues promptly but a few have been running up considerable arrears and have ignored our reminders. The association cannot function and provide services without everyone's contributions to our costs. If any member needs to make special payment arrangements, please contact treasurer Mickie Chopping or our bookkeeper, Sue Woodford (717-0565). We will, reluctantly, take legal action to collect unpaid dues if our appeals for payment get no response.

# Storm Damage

The storm season has started early and viciously this year and already many trees are gone. Ken Buckingham is working to keep the roads and driveways clear and does his best to spot potential problems.

He reminds members once again that only he is permitted to take refuse to the burn pile. Residents who clear their own storm refuse should take it to the Seaside dump for disposal. If you need help, contact Ken for suggestions.

### CC&R Poll

Look for compiled information from the recent CC&R poll in the next issue of Breeze.

## **Party**

espite high winds and intermittent rain, about 30 Surf Piners came to the Pacific Grange on Saturday, December 9, for a potluck dinner and gathering of neighbors to usher in the holiday season. As usual, the food was varied, tasty and ample and the company lively. Norma Keever took over the arrangements from Sally Allegaert, social committee chair, when Sally's mother passed away. Norma contributed her own Christmas decorations to add to those at the Grange and even shared a family eggnog recipe that was wickedly delicious. Next year we'll order friendlier weather for the event.

**Please Note**: Whoever left a stainless steel serving spoon can reclaim same from Marge Bloomfield.



# Pinehurst Estates Appeals

The county Board of Commissioners heard the several appeals on the Pinehurst Estates development on December 6. To summarize some four hours of argument, confusion, obfuscation, and contradiction: the commission denied the appeal to overturn preliminary plat approval; denied the appeal to set the building line to align with the Highlands on the south and the Surf Pines beach Addition construction line on the north end of the development; and approved the developer's appeal of the 18-foot house height restriction on the westernmost line of homes, which had been imposed by the Planning Commission. This last decision permits building to 35 feet; the developer, however, says he intends to restrict the height to 26 feet on the 22 lots in question.

Regarding the active dune/construction line, the planning staff was instructed to define the line and its location when writing up findings in support of the commission's decisions. For further details on the hearing, consult the December 8 Daily Astorian, which carried a fairly accurate summary of the meeting. The Surf Pines board presented a statement requesting removal of the emergency access from the preliminary plat, which the developer once again refused to do. Planning staff have indicated that this access can be removed from the final plat by means of a minor plat amendment, which does not require another hearing. The board will continue to oppose the emergency access in response to members' expressed wishes.

# Mailboxes Destroyed, Reward Offered

During the night of December 15-16, vandals attacked and destroyed ten mailboxes in Surf Pines. Many of them were customized, decorative boxes. Ken Buckingham discovered the damage during his security round in the small hours. The sheriff has been notified and an official criminal complaint filed. In addition, a reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the guilty parties has been posted. Residents interested in contributing to the reward should contact Ken. What a way of ushering in the Christmas season! (See note on vandalism, page 3.)





## Gates and Other Security Matters

E very issue of the Breeze contains news and information about the gates and general security concerns. These reports reflect the time and effort we spend dealing with one occurrence or another and trying to find the best, most cost-effective way of improving the gate system. The gate and security committee is currently working on the following subjects:

- Gate modernization;
- starting a "Neighborhood Watch" program with the aid of the sheriff's department;
- · vandalism;
- vehicles driving illegally on the dunes:
- recurring speeding problems;
- dogs running loose and being a nuisance;
- · trespassing;
- road repairs.

#### Gate Problems

The committee is exploring ways to replace the north entrance gate, which is now so fragile that it could fail at any time. The controls also need to be repaired and improved but because of the age of the system it is hard to find compatible replacement parts. In January members will be polled about their wishes regarding the gates and general security concerns. The board will be guided by your ideas and suggestions and will move as quickly as possible to implement improvements.

#### Vandalism

We are particularly concerned about the amount of vandalism that occurs in what the *Daily Astorian* calls our "exclusive" community. There are frequent incidents, ranging from malicious attacks on mail-

boxes to tampering with the gates. Much of this activity is carried out by residents, not outsiders. Examples:

Two of the posts that mark beach paths on public easements have been removed in recent months, one for the third time. Why? The easements are marked to indicate legal beach access and protect residents' privacy. If a member has a quarrel with our choice of marked path, talk it over with us. Don't wantonly destroy communal property.

Then there is the surreptitious tree vandal. For the second time trees on one property have been lopped without the owners' permission and they are so outraged that they have reported the incident to the sheriff. Two other stands of trees

#### Gate and Security Committee

Al Laakso Gene Keever Mike Ward Tom Finn

have also been vandalized. Again, why? Is it a coincidence that the sites of this illicit cutting line up within a narrow band that, once cleared, produces an enhanced ocean view for one new home in Surf Pines Landing? The guilty individual should be aware that when trees were cut without permission several years ago, the result was a costly lawsuit.

A pleasant contrast to such irresponsible behavior was provided by the unfortunate driver who one dark night missed the turn at the south end of Ocean Drive and hit some trees. A short time after the accident, the driver and some friends returned and took care of the damage. We are grateful to them.

#### Trespassers

During the mushroom season, several residents reported disturbing experiences with trespassers. Some were asked to leave and refused; others were not content with looking for mushrooms but peered into homes and garages. One stranger was searching a garage when the owner challenged him. Surf Pines is posted as off limits for trespassing, giving residents a legal basis to order strangers off their property.

The sheriff advises residents to inform intruders that they are trespassing and to ask them to leave in a non-confrontational manner. If they refuse, call 911 and report the incident. You can also call Ken Buckingham and any board member. Clatsop County has hired and is training a number of new deputies and they are soon to be available to respond to calls. We are promised a much more prominent police presence in Surf Pines in coming months.

Security committee members think that vandalism and trespassing could be reduced by instituting a Neighborhood Watch program and they are looking into details. Meantime, and in the absence of any other kind of protection, we should all be vigilant about anything that seems irregular.

### Giving a Party?

**Don't forget!** You need a **special gate code** at least **a week in advance** if you're giving a party.

Call Gene Keever or Tom Wilcox.



	JUIT THES ASSU	ciation Board of Directors	
President	Marge Bloomfield	2364 Manion Drive	738-8672
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Secretary	Tom Wilcox	2320 Lucas Drive	738-3515
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Layout: Lavi Johnson	Members are invited t	is a quarterly publication of Association, 2003 Mar Warrenton, Oregon 97146.  o contribute articles or comments, letter on't hesitate – shoot the Buye!	

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